Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Supplemental				
LRB Number 19-2638/1	Introduction Number	SB-158				
Description presumption and conclusive determination of paternity on the basis of genetic test results and orders that may be granted on the basis of genetic test results						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reven	ase Existing absorb within					
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Districts 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected Towns Counties Counties Districts Districts						
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR PRO PRO SEG SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DHS 5/29/2019

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Description						
presumption and conclusive determination of paternity on the basis of genetic test results and orders that may						
be granted on the basis of genetic test results						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a court may adjudicate a man to be a child's father in a paternity action, or a man and a child's mother may sign and file a statement acknowledging paternity with the state registrar of vital records. Both cases result in a conclusive determination that the man is the child's father, and the state registrar may change the child's birth record to show the man as the child's father and a court may enter orders for child support, legal custody and physical placement rights with respect to the man. The state registrar is housed within the Department of Health Services.

This bill creates a new presumption of paternity and a new way to conclusively determine paternity under the law using genetic testing. If the parties meet all the requirements specified in the bill to conclusively determine paternity and neither party objects to a notice provided by the child support agency informing each party of the test results, the child support agency must then file a report of the test results with the state registrar, showing a conclusive determination of paternity. On the basis of the report, the state registrar must insert the name of the father on the child original birth record if the father's name was omitted.

To meet the requirements of this legislation, the Department does not anticipate a fiscal impact to DHS as the activities of the state registrar in regards to paternity will largely remain the same.

While local government could incur costs to implement the proposed changes, these costs are indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications